Jammu and Kashmir on the 2nd March, 1995;

(b) whether such incidents are taking place every day in Jammu and Kashmir disturbing the normal life of law-abiding people of the valley and creating panic amongst them;

(c) whether Governement propose to fence the entire border along the Indian frontiers with Pakistan to ensure smooth working of people of the valley;

(d) whether Government also propose to increase the strength of para-military forces along the Indo-Pak border to check illegal entry of militants in Jammu and Kashmir in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) During the night intervening 1/2-3-95, the security forces had shot dead a Pakistani intruder who was moving in suspicious circumstances in Poonch and had tries to escape when signalled to stop. Only one militant of Harkat-Ul-Ansar was arrested on the date from Anantnag.

(b) It is not correct to say that such incidents are taking place every day.

(c) Government have decided to construct fencing and flood-lighting on the International Border in Jammu sector covering a distance of 180 kms. and 195.8 kms. respectively.

(d) and (e) The deployment of para-military forces in the border and other areas is reviewed by Government from time to time, keeping in view the vulnerability of the areas, availability of the forces and other relevant factors.

Setting up of Human Rights Cell for Jammu and Kashmir

2765. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Human Rights cell has been set up in Jammu and Kashmir in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof with its functions;

(c) whether some police operations group has also been set up in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof with its functions;

(e) whether these cells will be under the administrative control of National Commission on Human Rights;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether Government propose to publicise the achievements made by these cells after some time at international level to weaken the cause of Pakistan's support to militancy in the valley; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) The J&K Government have set up a Human Rights Cell in October, 1994, to look into the allegations of Human Rights Violations. This Cell comprises representatives of J&K Police, Army, BSF & CRPF and is headed by the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.

(c) and (d) The J&K Government have set up Special Operations Groups in all the districts of the Valley and Doda and Jammu Districts in the Jammu Division for carrying out antimilitant operations.

(e) and (f) The J&K Government's Human Rights Cell looks into allegation of human rights violations from various quarters including N.H.R.C. and other human rights organisation as well as into individual complaints.

(g) and (h) Achievement in the field of protection of human rights is highlighted at all possible national and international fora to counter the propaganda using allegations of human rights violations.

Elections in J & K

2766. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 728 given in the Rajya Sabha on 16th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether some poll processes have begun in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof with tentative schedule drawn for the same;

(c) whether Government have asked the militants to participate in the ensuing free and fair elections to hand over Government to them in case they win the elections;

(d) whether such steps will enable the "ultras" to test their popularity through the ballot rather than bullets; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken to soften the minds of militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (e) The Government is keen to restore democratic institutions in the State of Jammu & Kashmir through the process of free and fair elections at the earliest. It has been consistently urged upon various groups in the State to come forward and join such a process so that peace and normalcy could be restored in the State and that people could have the benefit of representative institutions for the redressal of their problems and difficulties and democratic governance in the State.

It is not possible at this stage to indicate any specific schedule for elections in the State.

A number of steps have been taken to create an environment conducive to normalisation and the electoral process. These include sustained and targetted operations against militants to contain their activities and reduce the fear of the gun; efforts to step up the pace of development and economic activities in the State; action for reactivation of the civil administration and restoring its morale; efforts to restore the confidence of the people in the administration by seeking their cooperation; efforts to reactivate political activities in the State and to motivate people to come into the mainstream, including steps such as the release of detenues, etc. These efforts are being closely followed up, and the Government intends to pursue these intensively.

New Training Camps for Kashmiri Militants set up by Pakistan

2767. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak training camps shifted" as reported in the Statesman dated the 5th January, 1995;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan has set up new training camps and has started giving training to the Kashmiri militants;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision to strengthen its borders and to curb infiltration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (d) Government have seen the news-item. There are reports of Pakistan establishing and running various camps including peripatetic ones in its territory and also close to the border, to provide indoctrination, training in handling sophisticated arms and equipment, and for launching of misguided Kashmiri youth and other fundamentalist elements into the State. Constant vigil is kept on the LOC/Border. Security arrangements in the vulnerable areas have been